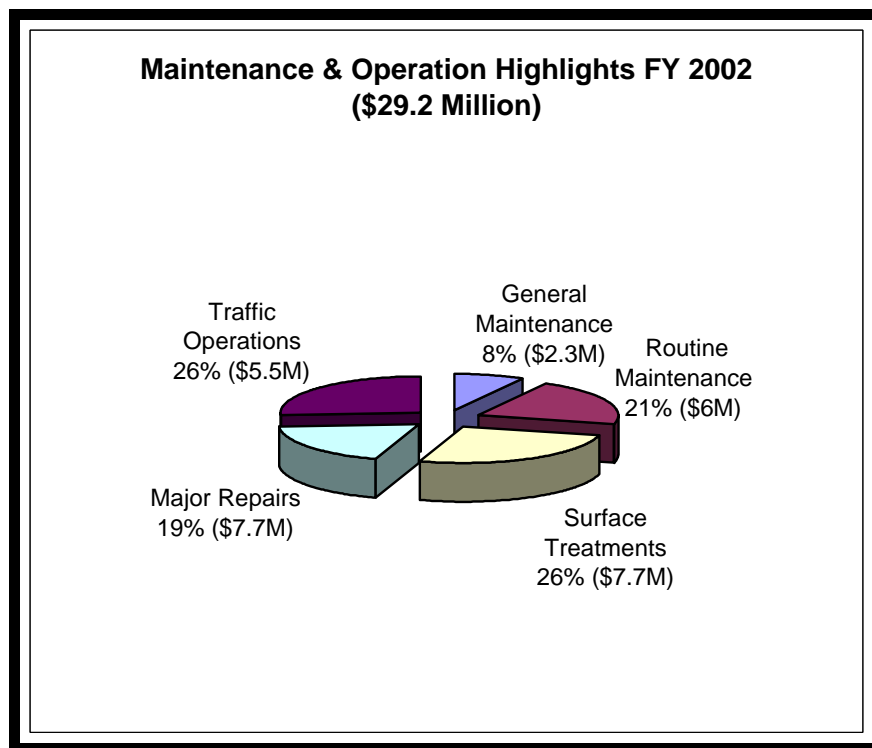


While it is easy to see tax dollars at work through new construction projects, nearly a quarter of MCDOT's budget is dedicated to roadway maintenance and minor repairs. The purpose of the Operations and Maintenance program is to provide roadway upkeep and traffic flow management to the traveling public so they have safe trips on smooth, cost effective roads. Key results of our success are measured by the percentage of arterial road mileage with pavement condition rating of "good" or better.

MCDOT splits its maintenance expenditures into five major categories: surface treatments, routine maintenance, general maintenance, major repairs and traffic operations. These categories account for over \$29 million annually.



**Figure 4. Maintenance and Operations Highlights 2002**

## 2002 Maintenance and Operations Highlights

### Surface Treatments

Surface treatments accounted for \$7.7 million in FY2002. Treatments included chip sealing (375 lane miles), preservative sealing (100 lane miles), slurry sealing (60 lane miles) and asphalt rubber overlay (10 lane miles). Surface treatments are relatively inexpensive methods of road maintenance. Chip sealing is a sprayed application of asphalt binder immediately covered by a layer of one-sized aggregates. The chip seal provides a new wearing surface. Slurry sealing involves applying a mixture of asphalt, sand, mineral filler and water onto the roadway. Asphalt rubber overlay blends asphalt rubberized cement and aggregate together. Both are laid and compacted at high temperatures. This preventative measure is required for deteriorated roads and improves the functional condition of the pavement.



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## Routine Maintenance

The purpose of the roadway maintenance activities is to provide upkeep of roadways in unincorporated areas of the County. This ensures the traveling public a safe trip on smooth, cost effective roads. Routine maintenance accounted for \$6.9 million during fiscal year 2001. This included grading dirt roads (681 miles approximately 8 times per year) and shoulders of paved roadways (1280 miles 3 times per year), sweeping paved (763 miles) arterials every 3 weeks and local roads every 8 weeks and filling surface cracks (150 lane miles) and potholes.

## General Highway Maintenance

General highway maintenance accounted for \$2.3 million. It included financing such activities as the Adopt-A-Highway program, mowing, trash and weed pickup, ditch and channel maintenance, median maintenance, graffiti clean up, and curb and gutter maintenance.

## Major Repairs

Major repairs accounted for \$7.7 million in FY 2002. These repairs included roadway rehabilitation, re-grading and plating (resurfacing a dirt road with an aggregate base), bridge repairs, guardrail retrofits, and valley gutters.



*A MCDOT traffic operations specialist tests and maintains one of the County's 120 traffic signals.*

## Traffic Operations

In the maintenance operation budget, traffic operations accounted for nearly \$5.5 million of the total budget. Traffic operations include re-stripping (5.926 miles) the roads, maintaining and installing traffic signs and signals, and providing work zone traffic control during maintenance and construction work.

